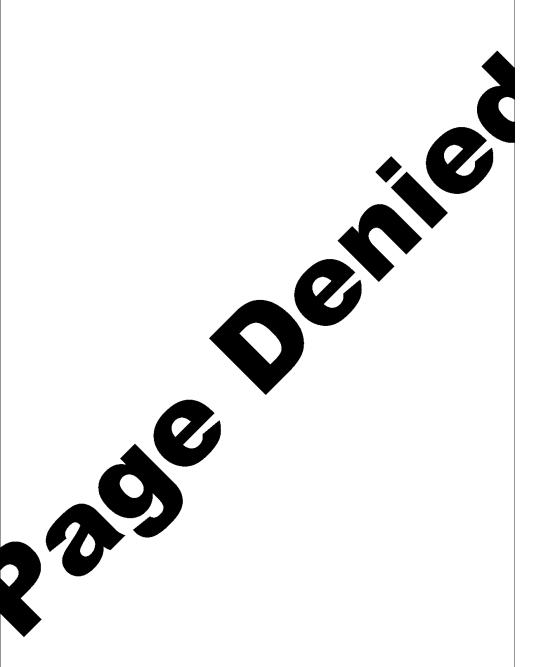
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ER 1343/1-88



15 April 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR:	Mr. George Van Eron Director, NSC Secretariat				
SUBJECT:	Draft response for General Powell's signature	25 <b>X</b> 1			
1. Referenc date of 14 April	e your Memorandum dated 04 April 1988, ID 8801795, due 1988. (Attachment #2)				
2. Attached you will find a draft letter to the relatives of					
exp	laining that there is no evidence that he is being held	25X1			
government agenc	e. (Attachment #3) However, the letter states that all ies have not yet been checked. Please refer to or background information. In order to obtain a complete	20, (.			
response to	inquiries, suggest a check be made with the ate and Justice.	25 <b>X</b> 1			
3. There ar pending. If we	e no CIA records on and FBI traces are can be of further assistance, please advise.	25X1			
		25 <b>X</b> 1			
	Executive Secretary				
	·				
Attachments: 3					
	packground memo (S)				
2. NSC referr	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	05)//			
3. Draft 1tr	to	25 <b>X</b> 1			

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL OF ATTACHMENT # 1



REG 1) REG 1) R (-133-jR SECRET

11 April 1988

25X1

25X1

25X1

#### **MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT: Draft Reply, Presidential Correspondence

The situation presented in the attached letter is quite implausible, for a number of reasons:

- -- Resistance prisoners are identified and visited with regularity by workers of the Nicaraguan Association for Human Rights (ANPDH).
- -- to our knowledge or that of the ANPDH, the Resistance has never held any U.S. nationals as prisoners.
  - -- the Resistance has no fishing boats.
- -- the nearest fishing port is over 170 miles from the only known Resistance prisoner holding facility; even if transportation were provided on a Resistance helicopter to the nearest road, it would still take two full days to get to the nearest port. Nevertheless, the chronology provided indicates made his arrangements to be reassigned from the prison location on 21 December 1987, and yet had been on a fishing voyage and returned to an unknown port by the evening of 24 December 1987.

-- although it is not stated, it is certainly implied was captured in conjunction with the seizure of an aircraft on a drug run. While allegations of involvement in drug running by opponents of the Sandinista government (as well as by the Sandinista government itself) are numerous, those that can be substantiated do not involve the Nicaraguan Resistance or its personnel. In addition, one of the unsubstantiated allegations involve seizure of an aircraft or the taking of U.S. prisoners by the Resistance.

Given the general tone of the letter, we would suggest further checks with the Department of Justice to determine if perchance a Federal prisoner; or with the Bureau of Consular Affairs of the Department of State to see if he is recorded as a prisoner of any foreign government. The attached draft letter is intended to deal with the allegation that he is a prisoner of the Nicaraguan Resistance, and leaves open the possibility of other checks.

SECRET

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ID 8801795

REFERRAL

DATE: 04 APR 88

Executive Registry
88-1343x

25X1

MEMORANDUM FOR: EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: POWELL, COLIN L

SOURCE:

DATE: 04 APR 88

SUBJ: LTR RE PRISONER OF WAR BEING HELD BY CONTRAS

REQUIRED ACTION: PREPARE DRAFT REPLY

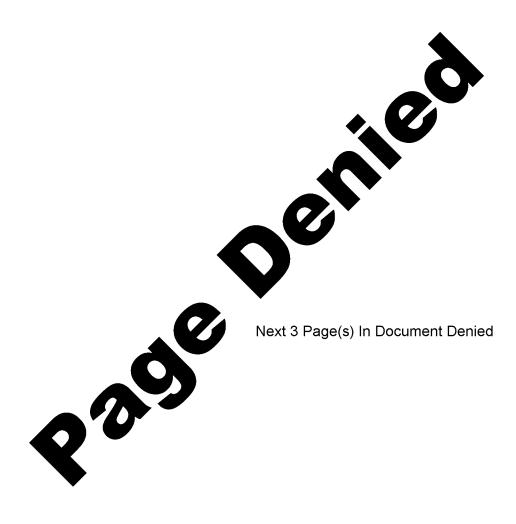
DUEDATE: 14 APR 88

COMMENT:

FOR GEORGE VAN ERON

DIRECTOR NSC SECRETARIAT

Rober Belland



## URAFT

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(Address no	t provided)
Dear	
The Pres	sident deeply sympathizes with the concern that you and your
family must	feel with regard to the situation of your brother,
	he has directly me to do all possible to determine
if he is he	ing held by any element of the Nicaraguan Resistance.

I regret to inform you that the Resistance does not appear to be detaining your brother. The Nicaraguan Resistance has an orderly prisoner handling procedure, and as of January 1988 semi-annual report of the Nicaraguan Association for Human Rights (ANPDH), which is enclosed, was known to be holding 57 prisoners of war and 10 criminal prisoners. The Resistance did release an additional 80 prisoners of war to the Costa Rican government on September 17, 1987, and your brother was not among them. None of the prisoners involved are U.S. nationals.

After determining that your brother does not appear to be a prisoner of the Nicaraguan Resistance, I initiated other inquiries in order to

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determine whether any word had been heard of him elsewhere in the region. Because of the number of places we have to inquire, it will take a little longer to report the results of this effort. Nevertheless, I have taken the liberty of providing you with this interim reply.

Sincerely,

Enclosure: 1

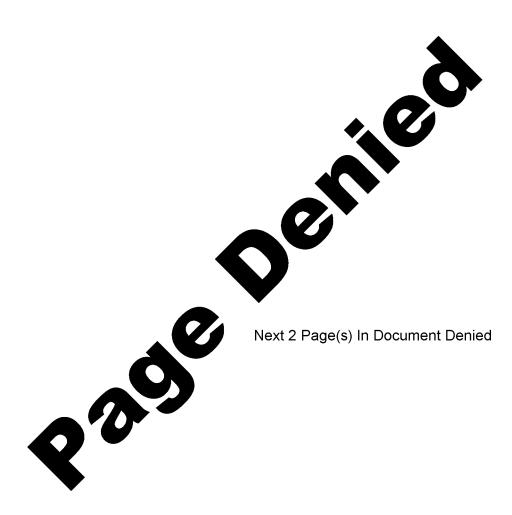


## Second Six-Month Report on Human Rights in the Nicaraguan Resistance

January 1988



Asociación Nicaragüense Pro-Derechos Humanos



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### **ROUTING SLIP**

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL			
1	DCI		. •					
2	DDCI		-					
3	EXDIR							
4	D/ICS							
5	DDI							
6	DDA							
7	DDO							
8	DDS&T							
9	Chm/NIC							
10	GC							
11	IG							
12	Compt							
13	D/OCA							
14	D/PAO							
15	D/PERS							
16	D/Ex Staff							
17	SA/DDO	Χ						
18								
19								
20								
21								
22	EP							
	SUSPENSE 14 Apr 88							

Remarks Please have DRAFT response prepared for ES transmittal to Gen Powell.

Executive Secretary

5 Apr 88

Date

**STAT** 

